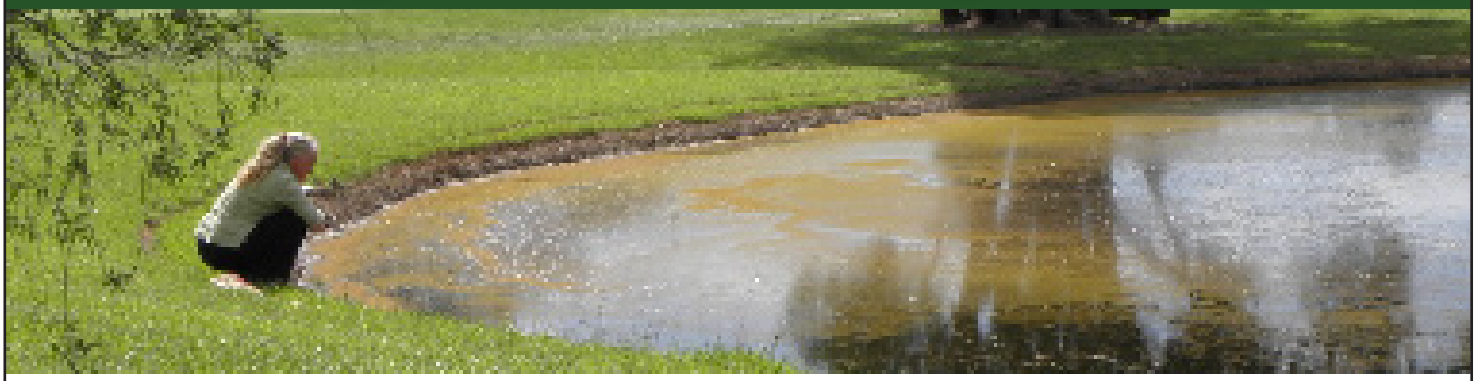
Reducing Cane Toads on your Property



Why are cane toads a problem?

Cane toads are the most invasive amphibian in the world. They are a problem because:

- They are toxic to any animal that predates on them, including domestic and native animals.
- Cane toads predate on many native animals including native frog tadpoles and many invertebrates.
- They are not native to Australia and negatively impact upon any ecosystems they enter.
- Toads can overtake habitat used by native animals on your property.

What is being done?

Many people, landowners, organisations and government departments are working very hard to reduce the impact that cane toads are having on our environment in NSW. Some of these efforts include:

- NPWS school and community education programs to ensure the public are able to identify and report cane toad occurences.
- Landcare, Council, NPWS and other department control programs.
- Volunteer organisations such as the Clarence Valley Conservation in Action Landcare group undertaking manual control in the local area.
- University research programs are being undertaken in NSW to investigate potential biological control options, identify ecological weaknesses of the cane toads, monitor the rate of spread of toads and estimate population densities in critical areas.
- An recent increased effort in NSW regarding the coordination and efficiency of cane toad control efforts, sharing of information and data, networking of current programs underway and discussions on research and control priorities.

What can you do?

There are many ways you can make your cane toad control efforts more effective by:

- Retaining vegetation around waterbodies on your property.
- Controlling cane toads using an integrated approach of manual control, trapping and exclusion fencing.
- Networking with other local landowners, departments and organisations controlling cane toads to ensure efficient and effective monitoring and control of the cane toad invasion.
- Participating in further control efforts including research programs, monitoring and control initiatives.

Exclusion fencing & planting

Cane toads must have access to water every 3-6 days thus excluding them from waterbodies can reduce their chance of survival and breeding success.

- You can construct a 60mm high siltmesh or shadecloth fence around dams on your property.
- Be aware that native fauna may be affected by fencing from dams so you may want to discuss this potential impact with the CVCIA Landcare Coordinator.
- Plant suitable native vegetation around your waterbodies to make it harder for cane toads to access your farm dams.
- Sedges and native grasses are perfect for barrier planting.

Where to get help & information

For more information or support, please contact the Clarence Valley Conservation in Action Landcare group (CVCIA Landcare):

Scott Lenton
CVCIA Landcare
PO Box 1657
GRAFTON 2460

phone: 0477 616 210
email: toads@cvcia.com.au
website: www.cvcia.com.au

or contact Clarence Landcare on (02) 6643 5009.

Thanks to...

The following organisations and departments are working to reduce the impact of cane toads in the Clarence Valley.